

Abolition of Licence Fee on all kinds of Radios, Transistors and TV sets

2596. SHRI BALKRISHNA WASNIK:

SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI:

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to abolish broadcasting receiving licence fee on all kinds of radios, transistors and television sets; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and from when the broadcasting receiving licence fee is likely to be abolished?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Government have already abolished licence fee for radio/transistor sets with two bands. Sets with more than two bands but costing less than Rs. 150/- attract even now a concessional licence fee of Rs. 7.50 per anum. Radio/T. V. are powerful and effective media for achieving national integration, spreading the message of economic development and nation building to the people in all parts of the country including the interior. With the launching of the INSAT, the reach of the radio and also of the T.V. will be getting a significant boost.

Therefore, further concessions like abolition/reduction of licence fee of non-sophisticated radio sets even though they may have more than two bands, is bound to have a beneficial effect through a larger sale of the sets and the expanded reach of this medium.

Annual Session of Executive Council of Asian Pacific Postal Union

2597. SHRI KAMAL NATH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether annual session of the Executive Council of Asian Pacific Postal Union was held in New Delhi in November, 1981;

(b) the proposals discussed thereat; and

(c) decisions taken at the session?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI KARTIK ORAON): (a) Yes. From 4th to 9th November, 1981.

(b) See Annexure 'A' laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library see No. LT. 3036/81*].

(c) See Annexure 'B. lida 8.. '

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Coal found short at Kedla Open Cast Mine

2598. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

SHRI SURAJ BHAN:

SHRI N. K. SHEJWALKAR:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) is it a fact that about 300,000 tonnes of coking coal worth about Rs. 6 crores was found short during a stock-verification of the fourth quarry of Central Coalfields Limited's Kedla Open Cast Project;

(b) names of other quarries and projects in which shortages have been found during the last three years;

(c) the amount of shortage and its value in each case; and

(d) names of guilty persons in the Kedla Open Cast Project case